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A new Amazonian subspecies of the Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher *Myiobius* (*Terenotriccus*) *erythrurus*

by Kenneth C. Parkes & Robin K. Panza

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The Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher *Myiobius erythrurus* is a tiny (wing *c.* 48–53 mm) tyrannid with a wide range in the Neotropics from southern Mexico to Peru and Brazil. In most of the literature this species is placed in the monotypic genus *Terenotriccus*, but Lanyon (1988) presented convincing evidence that this genus should be recombined with *Myiobius* (from which it had originally been split), and this treatment was followed in the world list of Sibley & Monroe (1990).

Carnegie Museum of Natural History holds a series of this species from the middle Rio Purús, Brazil. The ranges of subspecies given by Traylor (1979) omit this area. That of *M. e. amazonus* Zimmer is given as along the south bank of the Amazon itself, from the left bank of the Rio Purús east to the right bank of the Rio Tapajós. Traylor mentioned that *amazonus* ascends the Rio Madeira as far as the mouth of the Rio Jiparaná, but said nothing about the Rio Purús beyond its mouth on the Amazon, in spite of the fact that Gyldenstolpe (1951) had reported two specimens from Labrea, at about the same latitude on the Purús as the Jiparaná lies on the Madeira. Gyldenstolpe was unable to assign a subspecific name to his specimens, but his comparisons with 5 specimens of *M. e. amazonus* and 6 of *M. e. brunneifrons* Hellmayr, a race that occurs on the Rio Juruá some 600 km W of Labrea, make it obvious that his birds match those in the Carnegie series from localities on the Purús about 300 km downstream and about 130 km upstream from Labrea, respectively. The full range of *brunneifrons*, as given by Traylor (1979), is "eastern Peru south of the Marañon, southwestern Brazil on upper Rio Juruá and possibly southeast to upper Rio Roosevelt, and northwestern Bolivia"; if accurate, this means that the range of *brunneifrons* forms a large arc to the west and south of the Rio Purús.

As Gyldenstolpe suggested tentatively, the Rio Purús specimens cannot be assigned to any presently recognized subspecies. Although the Rio Purús population is almost encircled by *M. e. brunneifrons* and

M. e. amazonus, it is by no means intermediate between these two subspecies, and merits a name of its own. It may be called

***Myiobius erythrurus purusianus* subsp. nov.**

Holotype. Carnegie Museum of Natural History 86534, adult male collected at "Huitanañan" (= Huitanañ, 7°40'S, 65°46'W, of Paynter & Traylor 1991), middle Rio Purús, Amazonas, Brazil, by S. M. Klages on 20 Dec 1921. Field Number 27933.

Diagnosis. Differs from *brunneifrons* Hellmayr, the next race to the west and south, in having the crown and forehead concolorous rather than having the forehead brighter and more rufescent; dorsum less olivaceous, with more of an orange tint, the rump being especially brighter; edges of remiges and wing coverts decidedly paler, less rufous, more buffy; rectrices paler at the base rather than uniformly rufous for their full length; underparts decidedly paler, with less of a concentration of pigment forming an incipient breast band. Differs from *amazonus* Zimmer, the next race to the north and east, in having the back brighter, less olivaceous; the rump much brighter, and the mantle and crown essentially concolorous—in *amazonus* the crown is more leaden in colour than the back; edges of remiges and wing coverts contrast more with the centres of the feathers; underparts slightly paler in general, with chin and throat tending toward white.

Distribution. Known from three localities on the middle Rio Purús, Amazonas, Brazil; from north to south (upstream), Arimã, Labrea, and Huitanañ.

Notes on other subspecies. Carnegie Museum of Natural History has a specimen of *M. e. signatus* Zimmer, previously known from southeastern Colombia, eastern Ecuador, and northeastern Peru, that extends the range of this subspecies into Brazil. It was taken by Klages at Tonantins, on the Rio Solimões, about 400 km downstream (about 300 air km NE) of the joint Colombia-Peru-Brazil border.

The Carnegie specimens of *M. e. brunneifrons*, which were listed by Remsen *et al.* (1987) as two of the first four specimens from the Department of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, appear to be the easternmost specimens of that race. They were listed as being from Buena Vista; more precisely, they were collected by Steinbach at nearby Río Yapacaní.

Specimens examined. *M. e. brunneifrons*: BOLIVIA, Dept. Santa Cruz, Río Yapacaní, 2. *M. e. signatus*: BRAZIL, Est. Amazonas, Tonantins, 1. *M. e. purusianus*: BRAZIL, Est. Amazonas, Huitanañ, 11; Arimã, 6. *M. e. amazonus*: BRAZIL, Est. Pará, Vila Braga, 7; Apacy, 3.

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New and reconfirmed birds from the state of São Paulo, Brazil, with notes on disappearing species

by Edwin O. Willis & Yoshika Oniki

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In 1985, we reported on new specimens of birds from the state of São Paulo in southeastern Brazil. Our field studies since 1975 have discovered 26 species new for the state. Three have been since confirmed by specimens, and all have been reported from nearby states. Two other species were discovered by colleagues, another by a student, a fourth by a visitor, and reconfirmed by Willis. Several other new species, not noted here, are to be reported by D. F. Stotz and P. Martuscelli (pers. comm.). A further supposed 'species' has been seen, but we think it a hybrid. Here we report on our new birds and other species reconfirmed for the state, as well as on species that seem to be disappearing.

New species

SOUTHERN POCHARD *Netta erythrophthalma*

A pair in a shallow pond (20°39'S, 48°04'W) in sugar cane fields alongside Mata Chita, Morro Agudo, on 6–7 March 1984, was the first state record (Willis 1992). Alvarenga (1990) later collected a specimen from the Paraíba River Valley, and the bird has been seen since August 1987 at the Tietê Ecological Park in the city of São Paulo, where it is present mainly in winter (D. F. Stotz pers. comm.). Invading eutrophic sunny runoff ponds from the north with deforestation.

GREY HAWK *Buteo nitidus*

One screamed at Willis on 4 March 1984 at isolated Mata Taboão (20°46'S, 47°48'W), east of Sales Oliveira, and a pair did so by an isolated patch of woods (19°56'S, 49°32'W) just west of the main woodlot of the Paulo de Faria State Reserve on 14 October 1987. The species may be invading the state at man-made forest edges, or may have been present at natural edges of these northwestern deciduous woodlands.

CHIMANGO CARACARA *Milvago chimango*

Willis and students saw one on the dunes near the northeast end of Ilha Comprida (24°41'S, 47°26'W) on 8 November 1986. Willis saw individuals on the beach a few kilometres southwest, 5 July 1989 and 16 June